

PATRON REQUEST CONCERT
The Navy Band is inviting our patrons who receive *fanfare* to send us their favorite band selections to be performed on June 26 at 8 p.m. at the U.S. Capitol. Here's how it will work:

On this card, indicate your favorite march, overture and patriotic tune. Those marches, overtures and patriotic tunes receiving the most votes will be announced in the May/June issue of *fanfare*.
Come hear the winners at the concert on June 26.
If there is enough interest in this concept we will make it an annual event.

Please indicate your 3 choices.

- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- Detach and place prepaid postcard in the mail.



WELCOME ABOARD to...Lieutenant Issac Daniel, Jr., who reports to the Navy Band as the Supply Officer and Specialty Group Department Head. Lt. Daniel comes to the Navy Band from Millington, Tenn. where he served as Director of Navy Band Mid-South. While there he earned a master's degree in conducting from The University of Memphis. Previously he served as the Assistant Leader of the U.S. Naval Academy Band in Annapolis, Md. The Navy Band takes pleasure in welcoming Lt. Daniel and his wife Valencia.

WELCOME ABOARD & CONGRATULATIONS to...Musician First Class Jim Fox, contracting officer with the Navy Band, who received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his superior performance as a member of Navy Band Mid-South.

CONGRATULATIONS to...Senior Chief Musician Constance D. Whitfield and Chief Musician Kevin T. Dines on receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal...and to Chief Musician Keith M. Arneson and Musician First Class Patrick J. White on receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

fanfare

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

The United States Navy Band
617 Warrington Ave., S.E.
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5054

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fanfare

MARCH/APRIL ★ VOLUME 21 ★ NUMBER 2

NEW YEAR COMES UP ROSES FOR NAVY BAND

The United States Navy Band made its first appearance at the Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day in Pasadena, Calif. in support of the 100th Anniversary of the Submarine Service. We are happy to report the Y2K bug didn't bite anyone and everyone made it back to Washington to prepare for the 23rd International Saxophone Symposium that was held at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

Under the direction of Cmdr. Ralph M. Gambone, the Navy Band, with stunning performances by guest soloists, Claude Delangle and William H. Street thrilled the many saxophone enthusiasts who braved the Washington winter to attend. Master Chief Musician Leland V. Gause led the Commodores jazz ensemble in their



The United States Navy Band marches in the 2000 Tournament of Roses Parade.

symposium attracted hundreds to the many clinics, recitals and displays at the two-day event.

Before we get completely involved in the new millennium, we should

performance live from DAR Constitution Hall to an estimated audience of three



Dr. William H. Street, Chief Musician Timothy Roberts and Claude Delangle collaborate on Artur Piazzolla's "Oblivion," the encore at the Friday evening concert of the 23rd International Saxophone Symposium.

million patrons over military, local cable stations and the Dish Satellite Network. It was a great way to end the year and the decade. The Navy Band looks forward to seeing you at one of our concerts soon. *ff*



Santa (MUCS Chip Connelly) and Cmdr. Ralph M. Gambone share a happy Ho! Ho! moment at the Navy Band's 1999 Holiday Concert, "Happy Holidays."

Saturday performance with guest artist Walt Weiskopf. A Washington tradition, the

mention the band's final concert of 1999, "Happy Holidays." The Naval Media Center broadcast Sunday's

Performance Calendar

The U.S. Navy Band and specialty groups present the following FREE concerts. Tickets or reservations are not required unless noted (*). For more information call (202) 433-2525.

MARCH

NAVY BAND
SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 8 P.M.
North County High School Auditorium
10 E. 1st Ave.
Ferndale, Md.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 7:30 P.M.
Prince George's Community College
Queen Anne Fine Arts Bldg.
Hallam Theatre
301 Largo Rd.
Largo, Md.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, TBD
Roosevelt High School
4301 13th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 8 P.M. *
Metz Junior High School
9700 Fairview Ave.
Manassas, Va.
*For FREE ticket information call (703) 361-6599.

SEA CHANTERS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 7:30 P.M.
Central York Middle School
1950 North Hills Rd.
York, Pa.

COMMODORES
THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 9:10 P.M.
James Madison High School
2500 James Madison Dr.
Vienna, Va.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 7:30 P.M.
River Hill High School
12101 Clarksville Pike
Clarksville, Md.

COUNTRY CURRENT bluegrass quartet
FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 8 P.M.
St. Johns United Methodist Church
5312 Backlick Rd.
Springfield, Va.

HARP FLUTE duo
FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 8:30 P.M.
Bethesda Jewish Congregation
6601 Bradley Blvd.
Bethesda, Md.

APRIL

NAVY BAND
FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 8:15 P.M. *
Towson State University
Center for the Arts Concert Hall
Towson, Md.
*For FREE ticket information call (410) 830-2787.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 7:30 P.M.
Prince George's Community College
Queen Anne Fine Arts Bldg.
Hallam Theatre
301 Largo Rd.
Largo, Md.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 7:30 P.M. *
Bowie State University
Samuel L. Myers Auditorium
14000 Jericho Park Rd.
Bowie, Md.
*For FREE ticket information call (301) 464-6070.

SEA CHANTERS
SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 7:30 P.M.
Lyte Auditorium
Millersville University
Millersville, Pa.

COMMODORES
SATURDAY, APRIL 8, NOON
Blessing of the Fleet
Navy Memorial
701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2 P.M.
Catholic University
John Paul Rehearsal Hall
Washington, D.C.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 9 P.M.
America's Best High School Jazz Festival
Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill
400 New Jersey Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, NOON
Navy Earth Day
Navy Memorial
701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

COUNTRY CURRENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2:30 P.M.
Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts
801 Chase St.
Annapolis, Md.
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 7:30 P.M.
Francis Scott Key Middle School
910 Schindler Dr.
Silver Spring, Md.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 7 P.M.
Westminster High School
1225 Washington Rd.
Westminster, Md.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 8 P.M.
Town Hall
Armory & Mitchell Sts.
Kensington, Md.

COUNTRY CURRENT bluegrass quartet
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 7:30 P.M.
Gaithersburg Regional Library
18330 Montgomery Village Ave.
Gaithersburg, Md.

CHAMBER MUSIC ENSEMBLES
SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2 P.M.
Glenview Mansion
603 Edmonston Dr.
Rockville, Md.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 7:30 P.M.
Montgomery College
Performing Arts Center
51 Mannakee St.
Rockville, Md.

LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY

NAVY BAND
THURSDAY, MAY 4, 7:30 P.M.
Patuxent High School
12485 Rousby Hall Rd.
Lusby, Md.

SEA CHANTERS
SUNDAY, MAY 7, 3 P.M.
St. Marks Lutheran Church
5800 Backlick Rd.
Springfield, Va.

The United States Navy Band ■ Washington, D.C.
Commander Ralph M. Gambone, USN ■ Officer in Charge/Leader

All concert information is accurate at time of publication, though subject to change due to weather and other conditions. For concert updates call the 24-hour Navy Band Performance Calendar at (202) 433-2525, or visit us on the web at www.navyband.navy.mil.

COMMANDER’S MESSAGE



I'm writing this article as we prepare for our 75th Anniversary Tour to the Southeast. This past week has given us some of the worst snow and ice we've seen in this area since 1996 and played havoc with our performance and rehearsal schedules. Fortunately, we are now back on track and looking forward to leaving in February and the gala 75th Anniversary Concert at DAR Constitution Hall on March 4, 2000.

We appreciate the Secretary of the Navy, The Honorable Richard Danzig for hosting this concert and thank his staff for their assistance in planning of this momentous event.

Looking forward to this summer, we recently began working with the Navy Band Alumni Association on a project to erect a plaque at the Navy Memorial in honor of the 19 Navy Band members who lost their lives in a plane crash over South America on February 25, 1960. Former member, MUCM Don Stratton, USN (ret.), is heading this project and is accepting donations from band alumni and current Navy Band members interested in participating. The dedication ceremony will take place on Monday, August 7, 2000 at 2:30 p.m. prior to the Alumni concert on the East steps of the U.S. Capitol.

Welcome aboard to Lieutenant Isaac Daniel, who recently reported as our fourth officer and Ensign Joe Dolsak, our new Chief of Information (CHINFO) Liaison Officer. Special thanks to MUC Tim Roberts and the members of our Navy Band and Commodores saxophone sections for their outstanding work in organizing the 23rd International Saxophone Symposium. The performances were terrific and it was a pleasure working with Claude Delangle, William Street, and Walt Weiskopf. A special thanks to the Army, Marine, Air Force, and Coast Guard bands for allowing their very fine saxophonists to participate.

Once again, thank you for your support and I hope to see you at one of our concerts soon.

Ralph M. Gambone, Commander, USN
Officer in Charge/Leader

NOTABLE QUOTES

“As a four year Navy veteran of World War II, I’ve always been especially proud of ‘the band’s’ unchallenged world wide accomplishments in the world of music. During my Presidency, The United States Navy Band was a White House favorite of Mrs. Ford and me.”

former President
Gerald R. Ford

“Across our nation and around the world, you continue to be preeminent ambassadors for our great Navy. Your music touches the lives and hearts of everyone who hears you perform. You are and will continue to be ‘The World’s Finest.’ ”

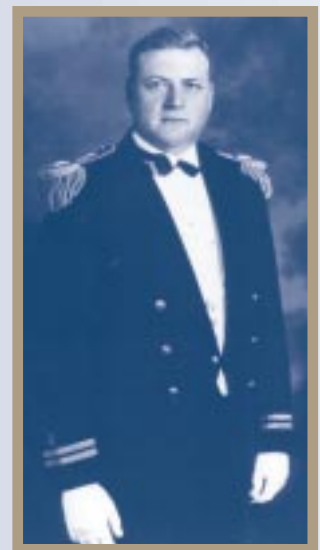
Admiral Jay L. Johnson
Chief of Naval Operations

FEATURES/CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

LOOKING BACK... FORMER LEADERS

In this year of the Navy Band’s 75th Anniversary ~~fanfare~~ will look back at the band’s 10 former leaders and what they contributed to make the U.S. Navy Band what it is today.

Early in 1919 a bandmaster named Charles Benter transferred from the fleet to the Washington Navy Yard Band. This was the beginning of the Benter era, which would last until 1942. Benter was born in 1899 and enlisted as an "apprentice boy" when he was thirteen years old. By the time he was twenty-one he



Lieutenant Charles Benter
1925-1942

became the youngest bandmaster in the United States Navy. During World War I he was Bandmaster of the band aboard the USS *Connecticut*, flagship of Admirals Dunn, Rodman and Glennon. From there he made the historic transfer to the Washington Navy Yard Band where he was to become the "Father of The United States



Washington Navy Yard Band, 1920, Bandmaster Charles Benter, Leader.

Navy Band."

With the Navy Band at 75 members strong in 1925 came the moment that Bandmaster Benter had dreamed of. The 68th Congress passed Public Law 611, Title 34, Section 596, which ordained "That hereafter the band now stationed at the Navy Yard...and known as the Navy Yard Band, shall be designated as The United States Navy Band..." President Coolidge did, on the day he was inaugurated as President, sign the bill into law. Bandmaster Benter was authorized by the same bill to receive the pay and allowances of a Lieutenant in the Navy. Also that year President Coolidge authorized the band to make national concert tours, and on October 12, 1925, the Navy Band departed Washington by train on its first tour, a swing through the Southern states that lasted eight weeks.

Delighted with its newly endowed congressional permanence, the Navy Band of the late 1920s gained national recognition and was a presidential favorite. Lieutenant Benter often led the band aboard the presidential yacht, *Mayflower* as well as at important functions at The White House, and prominent local clubs and hotels. Benter became a member of the National Press Club in 1926 and received an honorary Doctor of Music Degree from Columbus University in Washington, D.C.

in 1927. Benter, along with such musical luminaries as John Philip Sousa and Edwin Franko Goldman, was one of the original founders of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. The Navy Band was very much a part of world events during this period as they welcomed back Charles Lindbergh to the Navy Yard after his historic, solo flight across the Atlantic and Admiral Richard Byrd after he successfully journeyed to the South Pole. The Navy Band's long association with radio began in 1927 when a young Arthur Godfrey, announcer for the "Hour of Memories" program on NBC, was featured along with the Navy Band.

Of special significance during the 1930s was the fact that the Navy Band was available to the public through a series of 50 commercial recordings listed in the "Brunswick Catalogue of Phonograph Records." 1933 marked the band's first "Anniversary Concert" as Lt. Benter, the band and orchestra presented a "15th Anniversary Concert" at DAR Constitution Hall, based on the establishment of the Navy Yard Band in 1918 rather than the official Navy Band created by an Act of Congress in 1925.

Lt. Benter retired as the first leader of the Navy Band on January 1, 1942 and was succeeded by then Chief Musician Charles Brendler. To be continued in next issue. *ff*

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SPOTLIGHT ON...



If you have been fortunate enough to attend a performance by Country Current, you were probably taken by the wonderful voice and warm, friendly manner of its leader, **Senior Chief Musician Wayne Taylor**. During the concert you feel as if you are among friends who are lucky enough to be treated by his exceptional talents. Offstage MUCS Taylor is no different. He is truly an individual who enjoys people. **Background and education...**My father, a Corpsman Second Class and Purple Heart recipient at Normandy, and mother were both music lovers and encouraged me to play. Dad bought my first guitar when I was nine years old and brother David was also a huge influence on my musical career. A few of my brother's friends formed a band called "The Initials," and when they lost their rhythm player, asked me to join. At age 12 I became a member of the band before forming my own group

"The Contours," a few years later.

In 1974 I joined the Navy to see the world and was stationed on Midway Island for two years in the aviation rating where I met Merrie Glasgow, Radioman Second Class, my wife of 24 years.

The Navy band from Hawaii performed a series of concerts on Midway and heard my group play and I received an invitation to audition for the Music Program in Hawaii. I was accepted and received orders to the School of Music in Little Creek Va. a few months later. Upon graduating I received orders to the USS *Oklahoma City* (CG 5) flagship in Yokosuka, Japan where I was assigned to the SEVENTH Fleet Band's rock group, "The Orient Express."

I left the Navy in 1978 and decided to further my musical studies by enrolling in San Joaquin Delta College. I soon transferred to the University of the Pacific and earned a bachelor's degree in Music Therapy.

After eight years as a civilian, I was pulled by those positive experiences in the SEVENTH Fleet Band and decided to contact the local Navy recruiter. MUCM Jerry Gilmore was leaving Country Current, so I auditioned for his job as lead vocalist/Master of Ceremonies. The rest is history.

Since joining the group in 1987, I've performed in 48 of the 50 states, the White House for three presidents, in China, Sweden, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Renfro, Ontario Canada, and a few times on The Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tenn. I can honestly say, I look forward to every job, and can't wait for the next one to come along. I truly love my job and the Navy!

present position... Unit Director, lead singer and Master of Ceremonies for Country Current, the bluegrass quartet and the VIP Duo. I perform as a soloist for patriotic functions as directed and also serve as the band's assistant command physical fitness coordinator. I am honored to lead such a talented group of musicians. My goal is to showcase their talents by performing for as many people as possible and promote the Navy in a positive and professional manner.

hobbies...Playing cribbage with my wife Merrie, driving my daughter Terra to all the places she has to visit, practicing the guitar, writing songs, pencil sketching, golfing and jogging. I also like spending time with my son Wayne Jr. who is in the Marine Corps.

Visit us on the web at www.navyband.navy.mil

Contact Information

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